

College of Administrative Sciences

Master in Political Science

Course Description

Programme Compulsory Courses:

POL 611- Political Analysis and Scientific Research Methods

This is an advanced course in scientific research methodology and political analysis. The course introduces students to in-depth concepts of political analysis, how to build theoretical frameworks and the relationship of scientific research to theory, the latter's relationship to hypothesis and how to build theory. The student also delves into possessing advanced skills in reviewing previous studies, preparing a research plan and report, and defending both. The course addresses quantitative, qualitative and mixed political analysis and their use by focusing on particular tools such as case studies, focus groups, discourse analysis, and political ethnography. The course also demonstrates how to process political data, honesty and stability test, and quantitative curriculum applications in political science, including samples, measurement and computer applications. The student studies the philosophy of scientific research, its role in the renaissance, the ethics of scientific research, and the common mistakes of researchers.

POL 643- Foreign Policy Analysis

This course addresses the essence and analysis of foreign policy, using the historical development to study this field as a basic framework for analysis, the objectives of foreign policy in its comprehensive dimensions, and the foreign policy patterns, focusing on rational and sensible behaviour, violent and coercive behaviour, and the various levels in between in a comparative applied study. The course also addresses the dimensions of foreign policy, external effects related to fundamental theories of international relations, societal sources of foreign policy related to the country's depth

as internal influences, and its role in influencing the behaviour of political elites. The course deals with regulatory processes in foreign policy-making based on decision-making perspectives such as institutional regulation procedures and bureaucratic policy. The course also thoroughly examines the psychological factors of decision-makers, including subjective perceptions, conceptual and behavioural differences, and personal factors, through the psychological curriculum in the study of foreign policy. This part addresses the topic of international crisis resolution. The course addresses change and consistency in foreign policy using the comparative approach to foreign policy study in two concluding parts. The course considers the diversity of levels of analysis in the future study of foreign policy at the level of the individual, the country and the international system.

POL 621- Political Development Theories

*This course introduces the concept and theories of development, its characteristics, significance, objectives, indicators, obstacles, values, ethics and future in the light of opportunities and challenges. The course also addresses societies' political evolution through the concept of political development by examining political development theories and models in international experiences such as the liberal model, the *** model, the socialist model, the military model, the radical model and the independent development model. Hence, the course familiarizes the student with the theories of dependence and the theory of interdependence in the light of the current evolution of international cooperation.*

POL 612 - Public Policy

This course addresses the study of public policies utilizing various scientific concepts and approaches to deepen students' understanding of political reality. The course explains public policymakers' types and characteristics from formal and informal institutions. The course is also based on the stages that support how public policies are made and how to formulate their implementation strategies through presenting applied models and developing the necessary analytical skills related to government policies.

POL 631 - Political Theory

This course addresses critical issues and topics in political theory by studying the relationship between "political theory", "political philosophy" and "political science". The course deals with the most important science necessary to understand the political theory and the practice of theorizing such as "logic", "philosophy", "critical thinking" "argument", and "methodological approaches used in the study of political theory". The course deals with value theories and governance, such as "obligation theories", "utilitarian theory", " non-existential theory" and "value theories". The course covers contemporary arguments in justice and freedom such as "theories of justice", and "theories of freedom". The course also addresses modern critical issues such as "State intervention", "just war", "violence and coercion", "freedom and indecency", and the most critical challenges facing building an Arab political theory.

POL 613- Advanced Studies in Comparative Politics

The course addresses in-depth policy concepts from a comparative perspective. The course deals with the approaches for the comparative policy study, the basic stages of their development, the issues related to the modern state, governments, the concept of bureaucracy, the study of the legislative system, interest groups, and the presentation of applied models. The course also focuses on examining the role of civil society in developed and developing countries and social media and its modern role in influencing public opinion and decision-makers.

POL 641- International Political Economy

This course addresses the interaction and mutual influence between economics and politics in the international arena through the study of the foundational theories of the international political economy such as capitalism, socialism and nationalism, and modern theories such as the dual economy, the new world order and dominant stability. The course also addresses transformative production and its role in the international economic system, foreign direct investment (FDI) - case study, poverty

and inequality issues, the political economy of the environment and energy, current global financial imbalances: causes, consequences and solutions, globalization of the economy: consequences and disagreements. The course also deals with the future of the international political economy (forward-looking vision).

POL 642- Diplomatic and Consular Relations E

This course addresses critical issues and topics in diplomatic studies, focusing on the historical development and definition of contemporary functions and practices. The course also deals with the forms and characteristics of consular practice in light of diplomatic and commercial transformations. The course provides an overview of the challenges in diplomatic and consular affairs in light of the complex international environment.

POL 699- Thesis

This course is the cornerstone of the Master's Programme in Political Science. The course is research-based on supervising a certified subject in the field of political science. This course, through research and scientific study, addresses a recognized topic in the field of political science. The course is subject to scientific supervision by a specialized professor with an academic degree in line with the university's postgraduate regulations. The course allows students to conduct independent research and research work based on a structured methodology. The course focuses on senior-level skills that should be addressed in terms of advanced intellectual discourse, including identifying the research problem, research curriculum, literature review, data analysis, research findings and recommendations. The final version of the letter is subject to the Public Defender, and the assessment is based on written and oral presentations.

(Prerequisite: Passing 24 Credit Hours).

POL 698 - Applied Project

The applied project is an independent research work that aims to apply the knowledge and skills that the students have learned in the classroom to assist the concerned research authority. The student shall communicate with the research authority and the academic supervisor and manage their relationship. Research topics may vary, but they have to include a topic based on political science and real-life problems in the work environment related to political systems, the literature review, use of appropriate data analysis models and tools to obtain results and make recommendations.

(Prerequisite: Passing 24 Credit Hours).

Programme Elective Courses:

POL 646- International Political Crisis Management

This course addresses the most significant concepts relevant to international political crises and their management by providing in-depth knowledge of the significance of international political crises management, causes, types, characteristics and management stages. The course also focuses on scenarios for dealing with international political crises and how to measure the efficiency of crisis management, analyze the role of the media in facing international political crises and how to make political decisions in times of crisis. The course also includes the study of applied models for the management of international political crises.

POL 632- Modern and Contemporary Trends in Political Thought

This course addresses modern and contemporary trends in political thought by studying the development of modern and contemporary schools in Western political thought, starting with a traditional liberal political direction, to the neoliberal direction, to the visions and perceptions of contemporary liberal eminent figures such as John Rawls, Robert Nozick and Ronald Dworkin. The course also addresses the contributions of contemporary Arab and Islamic eminent figures such as Edward Said, Sadiq Jalal al-

Azam, Samir Amin, Fouad Zakariyya, etc. The course covers significant issues that have preoccupied "Arab" and "Western" political thought, primarily freedom, justice, equality, nationalism, Arab unity, secularism, capitalism, religious revival and democracy. The course focuses on the extent to which modern and contemporary political ideas influence the traditional Arab and Western perception of the political field and the extent of the ability of contemporary political ideas to address the challenges posed by modernity. (Prerequisite: None).

POL 645- International Organization and Agencies

The course thoroughly addresses the topics of international regulation and international bodies through studying international organizations and international bodies as effective units in the international system, besides other units. The course focuses on the concept of international regulation, its historical emergence, objectives, membership conditions, and institutional structure. The course also thoroughly examines the personality of international organizations, international bodies and general rules, from both legal and functional, at the international and regional levels. The course focuses on studying the general rules of international organizations, the powers and sources of international organizations, the methods of decision-making in international organizations, and the international organization's legal status. The course also addresses studying global organizations, and international bodies and the criteria for distinguishing between them. The course evaluates the functions and work of international and regional organizations, and their effectiveness in the international system. The course analyses the influence of globalization and international variables on the effectiveness of international regulation. The course focuses on a number of international organizations and bodies.

POL 614- Parliamentary Studies

This course examines the concept, emergence and evolution of Parliament and the single and bicameral systems to deepen students' understanding of parliamentary systems. The course also clarifies the organization and management of parliamentary institutions, the parliamentary oversight tools, the parliamentary media mechanism

and how to measure the functioning of parliament. The course also addresses the practical study in the Arab Parliament and the European Parliament and the parliamentary experiences of some countries by presenting applied models and developing the necessary analytical skills related to parliamentary studies.

POL 644 - Contemporary International Politics

This course addresses the basic concepts related to contemporary international policy which has become vital in today's world through an in-depth knowledge of the significance of international policy and contemporary developments in the international environment. The course addresses key topics and objective facts that scholars of political science and international relations such as diplomats shall understand and interpret scientifically and objectively. The course focuses on methodologies and methods of analysis in contemporary international policy and the study of variables affecting international relations interactions, utilizes this knowledge in specialized fields, develops perceptions and possibilities for the paths of political phenomena. The course handles the international environment, its nature, characteristics, and developments that have resulted in their essential features, based on excellence, collaboration, conflict and the resulting phenomena of peace and war, all of which are linked to the basic concept of "power" in this science. The course also includes a study of applied models of contemporary international policy.

POL 622 - Area Studies

This course deals with the definition of regional studies with a focus on Asian studies as one of the fields of political science and other social sciences. The course investigates regional studies to define a region/s concept and analyses the most significant regional study policies in selected Asian countries. The course emphasizes the most prominent general features of Asian systems and their regional and international relations, their weights in the international system, the most prominent challenges, problems, opportunities, collaborations and conflicts among themselves and other regions through Asian experiences in development field, whether political or economic development and evaluate the most significant elements and determinants that led to

knowledge and understanding of regional Asian studies through understanding the relationship between political and economic development indicators. The course focuses on how the countries of Asia have progressed so spectacularly, providing an analytical and evaluative view of the most crucial development policies implemented in the emerging countries of "South-East Asia". On the other hand, case study models must be shown both in the field of development and in the composition of Asian society and their impact on the country, focusing on the experiences of Japan, India, Malaysia, China, Singapore and Indonesia. The Region's choice for this semester is the East Asia Study.